RIVERS.

All rivers in Oklahoma continued below the normal stage, and no decided changes were reported. In the Kansas area the rivers continued at low stages, and in Arkansas the Black, White, and Arkansas Rivers continued unusually low, and the Arkansas at Little Rock was not navigable at any time during the month.

Changes in the Mississippi below St. Louis were slight and unimportant and low stages prevailed generally. The Red River was low throughout the month and there were only slight changes in stage. Changes in the Ouachita were slight, generally, and the river remained at a low stage, except that there was a sharp rise at Camden from the 25th to 27th, when the highest stage of the month, 10.7 feet, was recorded.

## DAM AND ELECTRIC POWER PLANT AT POWERSITE, MO.

By J. S. HAZEN, Local Forecaster, Springfield, Mo.

A dam and hydroelectric power plant is now nearing completion on the White River 8 miles below Hollister, Mo., which will conserve the waters of that stream and supply power for the adjacent territory. This power plant, while small as compared with the one at Keokuk, Iowa, is to be one of a series along the White River which will eventually utilize the entire resources of that stream. It is the first project of this character undertaken in that part of the State and marks an era of great development and economic importance to southwestern Missouri and northwestern Arkansas.

The White River flows in a southeasterly direction through the Ozark Mountains, with a crooked course and high grade. This condition gives many desirable sites for the contemplated series of dams. The three power plants now contemplated will be located within a radius of about 7 miles of Hollister.

The project is being financed by the Henry L. Doherty Co. and is incorporated as the Ozark Power & Water Co., with a capitalization of $1,500,000. They contemplate eventually spending $2,000,000 on the project. Power will be supplied to all cities within 150 miles of the centers, and lines of transmission with steel poles are almost completed to Springfield, Carthage, and Joplin, Mo.

The first of these plants will be completed in March or April, 1913. The dam at Powersite is of the Ambursen type, hollow construction, reenforced concrete, 52 feet high, 60 feet wide at the base, with a spillway 600 feet long, and the approaches are 700 feet in length. It is situated in a gorge of the White River, and when completed will raise the water level in the river 50 feet and create a lake nearly 20 miles long. No difficult engineering problems were encountered in the construction, as solid rock foundations were easily secured with a minimum of excavation. The land which will be inundated by the lake created has been secured by purchase and no delay in the turning on of the power is anticipated. The power house will be immediately below the dam and will have 8 penstocks, with 5 units of 2,250 kilowatts each. With a minimum flow of water during unusually dry seasons of 1,000 feet per second, a reservoir dam will be required, and work has already been started on that project. However, each dam will create such a vast reservoir that, while the White River is small (only about 600 feet wide at Powersite), it is confidently expected that the average annual precipitation of 44 inches over the 4,000 square miles of territory draining into the river above the dam will furnish an ample supply of water to tide over the driest periods.